

Top ten fundraising ideas

If you're up for putting on a fundraising event, here are our top ten ideas

1 Coffee morning

This can be done at work or at home. Ask friends for a donation and lay on tea, coffee and cakes. No one will be able to resist a mid-morning sweet treat (in moderation of course!).



2 Pamper day

Ask your friends or generous professionals to donate their expertise and get others to pay to be pampered. It's a great way to relax, socialise and raise money.



3 Masterclass

Do you have a particular talent or skill? Are you a master chef? Flower arranger? Painter? Organise a class to share your skills in return for a donation or better still invite all your friends to share their talents and learn a new skill whilst raising money.



4 Quiz night

Hold a quiz in a pub or at home. The questions can be on any topic you like, though general knowledge, sports and music rounds often work well. There are some great ideas online. Charge each person to enter, then offer half the money raised as a prize for the winning team, the other half you can pay in to your fundraising page.

5 Garden Party

Take advantage of the longer days and warmer weather as the event approaches and hold a garden party for friends and family. Charge a fee for entry and add it to your fundraising total.



6 Themed evening party

Start your fundraising with a themed evening based on a film, era, letter of the alphabet or anything you like. Why not theme the food and tell guests to come in fancy dress too? Charge for entry.



7 Dress down day

Ideal if you work in an office. Colleagues might be keen for an opportunity to wear casual clothes for a day if they pay a small fee to help support your fundraising.

8 Auction

You can auction anything and everything! Try asking local businesses to donate items to auction, or friends and family to donate favours such as running errands for the day. If you're holding your auction at work, persuade your manager to make coffee for your team for a week and put their services up for the bid.



9 Your very own X Factor event

Charge your friends and family to enter, get together a judging panel and have fun!



10 Anything else you can think of!

You can be as creative or traditional as you want with your fundraising – take a baked bean bath, wear '80s exercise gear to work or hold a sponsored silence. How you fundraise is totally up to you.



Once you've decided how you want to fundraise, make a list of family and friends you can invite to your event or activity.

You can use your email signature, website or social networks like Facebook, MySpace, Bebo and Twitter to spread the word.

And if you're putting on something for your work colleagues or in your local community, remember to promote your fundraising activities by making posters or flyers to let everyone know.

